Participation in International Trade Fair in Algeria

3617. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take part in the International Trade Fair to be held in Algeria next year to increase exports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Powerloom Sector

3618. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a scheme for modernisation of powerloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

NTC Workers

3619. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the modernisation of NTC mills, lesser number of workers than the present strength will be required;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of workers likely to be reduced; and

(c) the scheme of the Government for resettlement of the surplus workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) According to the modernisation plan prepared by the Textiles Research Associations 69471 employees (62086 workers and 7385 officers and staff) were identified to be surplus to the requirements of NTC. Out of them as on 19.8.96, 42662 workers/employees have availed of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme in NTC.

(c) Government have formulated a scheme for rehabilitation of workers rationalised under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Under the scheme, the workers can start their own project by purchasing old looms from NTC at a nominal price or can purchase new powerlooms/ reeling machines from machinery manufacturers. The requisite finance is available from the banks. The company would also provide production incentive in such ventures after successful operation for six months from the date of commissioning. As on 30.6.96, 419 looms have been delivered to 1715 workers who opted for the scheme.

[English]

Uniform Jute Policy

3620. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to adopt a uniform jute policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Policy initiatives taken by the Government in the textile sector, including the jute sector, invariably take into account all relevant factors, and aim at the harmonious development of the sector.

[Translation]

Shifting of Headquarters of Coal from Calcutta to Ranchi

3621. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to shift the Headquarter of Coal India Limited from Calcutta to Ranchi (Bihar);

b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up in Ranchi;

(d) whether there is great resentment amongst the staff and officers of CIL on this issue; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.